REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been amended as set forth above for clarity. Applicants believe that the claims overcome the cited references. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

I.   Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 26-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because it is asserted that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully disagree. The specification of the application specifically recites as follows:

> Computer storage media may include volatile and nonvolatile, removable and non-removable media implemented in any method or technology for storage of information, such as computer readable instructions, data structures, program modules, or other data. *System memory 104, removable storage 109 and non-removable storage 110 are all examples of computer storage media. Computer storage media includes, but is not limited to, RAM, ROM, EEPROM, flash memory or other memory technology, CD-ROM, digital versatile disks (DVD) or other optical storage, magnetic cassettes, magnetic tape, magnetic disk storage or other magnetic storage devices, or any other medium which can be used to store the desired information and which can be accessed by computing device 100.* Any such computer storage media may be part of device 100. Computing device 100 may also have input device(s) 112 such as keyboard, mouse, pen, voice input device, touch input device, etc. Output device(s) 114 such as a display, speakers, printer, etc. may also be included. These devices are well know in the art and need not be discussed at length here.
>
> Computing device 100 may also contain communication connections 116 that allow the device to communicate with other computing devices 118, such as over a network. Communication connection 116 is one example of communication media. *Communication media may typically be embodied by computer readable instructions, data structures, program modules, or other data in a modulated data signal, such as a carrier wave or other transport mechanism, and includes any information delivery media. The term "modulated data signal" means a signal that has one or more of its characteristics set or changed in such a manner as to encode information in the signal.* By way of example, and not limitation, communication media includes wired media such as a wired network or direct-wired connection, and wireless media such as acoustic, RF, infrared and other wireless media. *The term computer readable media as used herein includes both storage media and communication media.*

As indicated from the above, the term computer-readable media is used to refer to both storage media and communication media. The communication media is described as being embodied in a modulated data signal such as a carrier wave. However, no such description is included in the computer storage media. Claims 26-30 specifically recite a "computer-readable storage medium." This language precludes the communication media which describes the modulated data signal such as a carrier wave. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II.   Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 18-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,566,328 issued to Eastep (hereinafter " Eastep") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,189,000 issued to Gwertzman et al. (hereinafter "Gwertzman"). Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection. Independent claim 18 includes the following combination of features that is not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited references:

> ### *prior to resolving a pathname to a handle for an object:*
>
> > receiving the pathname from a requesting component wherein the pathname includes a variable that identifies at least one member of a group comprising: a current user of the requesting component, and a location of the requesting component within a network,
> >
> > identifying the variable in the pathname,
> >
> > mapping the variable to a value, and
> >
> > modifying the pathname by including the value in the pathname;
>
> ### *after modifying the pathname by including the value in the pathname:*
>
> > resolving the pathname to a handle for an object associated with the value, and
> >
> > returning the handle for the object to the requesting component for access to the object.

The references do not teach or otherwise suggest the above combination of features. Applicants assert that the Eastep reference is being read out of context. Eastep pertains to mapping a file handle to a file path. (Eastep, Col. 6, lines 43-45). Claim 18 pertains to resolving a file path to a file handle. Resolving a file path to a file handle is different than mapping a file handle to file path. Eastep teaches that in some systems, the same file handle can be generated from multiple file paths. In such systems, it is difficult to determine the file path that resulted in the generation of the file handle. Such systems may include the UNIX operating system. The link ID in Eastep is associated with the file handle. When it is desired to determine the file path that generated the file handle, the link IDs can be accessed to determine the file path that was responsible for generating the file handle.

The Office Action states that Eastep teaches receiving a pathname from a requesting component when the pathname includes a variable associated with the user context. In making this assertion, the Office Action cites to Col. 6, lines 18-20 of Eastep as disclosing receiving a file handle that includes a link ID. Here, Eastep is clearly teaching that the file handle includes the link ID, not the file path. The Office Action also states that Eastep teaches identifying the variable in the pathname that is associated with the user context. In making this assertion, the Office Action cites to Col. 6, lines 18-20 and lines 27-28 as disclosing that the link ID is identified to be used in resolving the pathname. Again, Eastep is teaching that the file handle includes the link ID, not the file path. The Office Action also asserts that Eastep teaches mapping the variables associated with the user context to a value. In making this assertion, the Office Action cites to Col. 6, lines 27-28 as disclosing that the directory table is searched to find a corresponding value to the link ID. Again, Eastep is teaching that the directory table is accessed in association with a file handle to determine what file path was responsible for generating the file handle.

Independent claim 18 has been amended to clarify several steps taking place "prior to resolving a pathname to a handle for an object." Independent claim 18 has also been amended to recite several steps taking place "after modifying the pathname by including the value in the pathname." These features are clearly not taught in Eastep in that Eastep is teaching accessing a link ID associated with a file handle. Moreover, applicants can find no teaching or suggestion in

Gwertzman that remedies the lack of teaching in Eastep. Accordingly, applicants assert that independent claim 18 is allowable over the cited references.

Independent claim 26 includes the following combination of features that is not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited references:

> ### prior to resolving a pathname to a handle for an object:
>
> > receiving the pathname from a requesting component, wherein the pathname includes a prefix and a variable that identifies a user of the requesting component,
> >
> > identifying the variable in the pathname that identifies the user of the requesting component, wherein the variable is identified from the prefix,
> >
> > mapping the variable that identifies the user of the requesting component to a value that implicates the current user of the requesting component, and
> >
> > modifying the pathname by replacing the variable that identifies the user of the requesting component with the value;
>
> ### after modifying the pathname by replacing the variable that identifies the user of the requesting component with the value:
>
> > resolving the pathname to a handle for an object associated with the value, and
> >
> > returning the handle for the object to the requesting component for access to the object.

Applicants assert that the references do not teach or otherwise suggest the above combination of features. As stated, Eastep is being read out of context. Eastep pertains to mapping a file handle to a file path. Eastep teaches that in some systems the same file handle can be generated from multiple file paths. In such systems, it is difficult to determine the file path that resulted in the generation of the file handle. The link ID in Eastep is associated with a file handle. When it is desired to determine the file path that generated the file handle, the link ID can be accessed to determine the file path that was responsible for generating the file handle.

Independent claim 26 has been amended to clarify several steps taking place "prior to resolving a pathname to a handle for an object." Independent claim 26 has also been amended to recite several steps taking place "after modifying the pathname by replacing the variable that identifies the user of the requesting component with the value." These features are not taught or otherwise suggested in Eastep in that Eastep is teaching that after the file handle has been generated, accessing a link ID associated with the file handle. Furthermore, applicants can find no teaching or suggestion in Gwertzman that remedies the lack of teaching in Eastep. Accordingly, applicants assert that independent claim 26 is allowable over the cited references.

Independent claim 31 includes the following combination of features that is not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited references:

a processor; and

a memory having computer executable instructions stored thereon, wherein the instructions are configured for:

prior to resolving a pathname to a handle for an object:

receiving the pathname from a requesting component wherein the pathname includes a variable that identifies at least one member of a group comprising: a current user of the requesting component, and a location of the requesting component within a network,

identifying the variable in the pathname,

mapping the variable to a value, and

modifying the pathname by including the value in the pathname;

after modifying the pathname by including the value in the pathname:

resolving the pathname to a handle for an object associated with the value, and

returning the handle for the object to the requesting component for access to the object.

The cited references do not teach or otherwise suggest the above combination of features. As previously stated, Eastep is being read out of context. Eastep pertains to mapping a file

handle to a filepath. Eastep teaches that in some systems, the same file handle can be generated from multiple file paths. In such systems, it is difficult to determine the file path that resulted in the generation of the file handle. The link ID in Eastep is associated with the file handle. When it is desired to determine the file path that generated the file handle, the link IDs can be accessed to determine the file path that was responsible for generating the file handle.

Independent claim 31 has been amended to clarify several steps taking place "prior to resolving a pathname to a handle for an object." Independent claim 31 has also been amended to recite several steps taking place "after modifying the pathname by including the value in the pathname." These features are not taught or otherwise suggested in Eastep in that Eastep is teaching that after the file handle has been generated, accessing a link ID associated with the file handle. Moreover, applicants can find no teaching or suggestion in Gwertzman that remedies the lack of teaching in Eastep. Accordingly, applicants assert that independent claim 31 is allowable over the cited references.
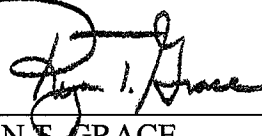
The dependent claims include features that are not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited references. Furthermore, those claims ultimately depend from the independent claims set forth above. As such, they should be found allowable for at least those same reasons.

III.   Request for Reconsideration

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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